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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR/~~Poland~~/ Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Combined Maneuvers in the Dukla Pass Area  
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1. Combined maneuvers of Soviet, Polish and Czech troops were held in the Dukla Pass area ~~/Poland/~~ beginning in June 1953. This section of the triple border is strategically an area of the utmost importance. The forces employed were not large, only about 8,000 or 9,000 men being involved altogether. The main purpose was to study the operations of combined command. No aerial units were used.
2. A combined Soviet-Polish-Czech command was set up, with high ranking officers from all three countries. Command posts were moved as needed, and lower commands were also set up.
3. Soviet troops participating included a motorized rifle division from Uzhorod ~~/Hungary/~~, including an armored battalion, a motorized artillery regiment, a motorized rifle regiment and an AA section. These troops worked closely with Polish and Czech units. Other Soviet troops were in the maneuver area, but they were not identified. The Soviets were mainly concentrated in the area of Pilowiec ~~/sic/~~ and Posada Jasliska.
4. Polish troops participating were distinctly fewer, consisting of an armored battalion and two rifle battalions, with about six officer groups, 60 or 70 officers altogether. There were about 1,600 or 1,700 men, concentrated around Barwinek and Tylawa.
5. The largest number of troops came from Czechoslovakia. They were part of the motorized infantry division from Kosice and units of another division. They included a motorized light artillery regiment from Kosice, a motorized rifle regiment from Kosice, a light AA section with 37mm guns, a communications battalion from Presov. All told, there were something over 4,000 men, 80 percent of them from the active list. They were concentrated in and around Stropkov.
6. The Polish troops reached the maneuver area between 5 and 7 Jun 53, the Czechs arriving on 7 Jun 53 and the Soviets on 8 Jun 53. The first three days were devoted to orientation and making contact with the "enemy." There were various small reconnaissance actions.
7. From 10 to 13 Jun 53 there were major march exercises in a northerly direction. The Soviets led the advance, with the Polish and Czech units in the second echelon. There was a 30km gap between echelons. During the march, vanguard exercises were carried out.

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- On the 13 Jun 53, the maneuver was broken off and the troops returned to the starting point, the Poles going back to their garrison stations. There were border guard formations in the area, but they did not mingle with the troops.
8. After the maneuver the Czech troops returned to Stropkov, where they had two days of rest. They then returned to Kosice, holding battle exercises in company and battalion strenght on the way.

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